

**FULL BOARD ♦ Maricopa Workforce Connections**

Gilbert Career Center, Event Room
735 N. Gilbert Road, Suite 134, Gilbert, AZ

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Rick McCartney called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

2. Roll Call: Quorum (19)**Present:**

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Tony Abraham (T) | 11. Blair Liddicoat (T) |
| 2. Karissa Brnak | 12. Christine MacKay (T) |
| 3. Ben Candler (T) | 13. Tony Maldonado |
| 4. Shellie Frey | 14. Rick McCartney |
| 5. Belinda Hanson (T) | 15. Jessica Starr (T) |
| 6. Dillon Holmes (T) | 16. Greta Suda (T) |
| 7. Kayong Holston (T) | 17. George Thorne |
| 8. Tina Huff | 18. Karen Thorne |
| 9. Shawn Hutchinson (T) | 19. Chevera Trillo |
| 10. Randy Kimmens | |

Absent/Excused:

*Barbara Gallegos
Trevor Gelder
Trish Georgeff
Eric Knott
Katharine Levandowsky
Yolanda Locher
Paul Magallanez
Kelsie McClendon
Bob Neckes
Rodney Pack
Paul Sanders
Benjamin Serio
Marie Sullivan*

Staff/Guests

Patrick Burkhardt
Kristen Merser
Alvin Ford
Justin Jones
Elaine Hernandez
Karen Evans
Judy Mason
Diana Shepherd
Laurie Ontiveros
Valery Kunzeman
Melanie Benitez
Bonnie Thoi
Rudy Barcelo
Susan Ong
Julie Tregloan
Curtis Shaw

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Action Item

Chevera Trillo made a motion to approve minutes from the December 15, 2012 meeting; Tony Maldonado seconded; minutes approved.

4. Nomination to the Board – Action Item

Alvin Ford serves as the Center Director for the Phoenix Job Corps, overseeing daily operations of the 450 student facility and over 150 full time staff. He has previously served as the Deputy Center Director for the Job Corps Center in Gulfport, Mississippi, and as the Director of Administration and Support Services at the Job Corps program in Carville, Louisiana. Prior to his positions within the Job Corps system, Mr. Ford served more than two decades as an Officer in the United States Navy, and in several command positions in the Naval Reserve. Mr. Ford is a graduate of Southern University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education.

George Thorne made a motion to nominate Alvin Ford adding that he has known him as a leader and motivator of youth and would be a great addition to the board. Tony Maldonado second the motion, motion carried.

5. Remarks and Discussion – For Information Only

Congressman David Schweikert cancelled his appearance and presentation this morning

6. Call to the public –

- Alvin Ford introduced himself. He is replacing Che Collins and looking forward to the opportunity.

Patrick discussed the following issues:

- The Two Year Plan Implementation Task Force is holding next steps until the new AJC system is active and systems can be aligned. Some implementation issues with the new system have been discovered and need to be resolved. Patrick has collected about 15 pages of issues from other state LWIAs and is finding similar issues. Training was limited and system process changes were not evident before implementation so Patrick sent a team to Kansas for system training and is planning to bring Kansas representatives to Arizona to offer additional guidance later this month.
- Greater Phoenix Economic Council is planning for a trip to Denver to review the *Skills to Compete* initiative in Colorado. East Valley Partnership has also expressed interest in the initiative and would like to partner with GPEC.
- Patrick has been participating aggressively with Clarence Carter on the Innovation grant proposal to realign the workforce system and the way that DES does business. Patrick said it was an exciting venture that will address low skill / high barrier populations.
- One H1-B proposal was awarded for \$4.9 million for registered nurse training. Banner Health is leading and MWC is the workforce system backing them up.
- The state auditor general conducted an annual single audit and for the first time in 5 years there were no findings. The “clean audit” is an extraordinary accomplishment.
- Assistive Technology Labs issue: Patrick is in contact with DES to craft a solution to restore navigator staff in the career centers.
- Department of Labor visit last month. Career Connectors and North Phoenix Baptist Church hosted a DOL Jobs Club event with 160 people in attendance on last minute notice.
- Kristen Merser is entering a new position and being replaced by Martin Moreno from MC Correctional Health. His past performance is outstanding and the team is looking forward to having him on board.

7. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.